

Regular Session, 2008

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 43

BY REPRESENTATIVES BARROW AND WILLIAMS

A RESOLUTION

To recognize Tuesday, May 6, 2008, as Legislative Wellness Day at the Louisiana House of Representatives and to commend the efforts of the American Heart Association, the Louisiana Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, the Louisiana Council on Obesity Prevention and Management, the Louisiana Dietetic Association, and the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

WHEREAS, obesity rates are continuing to climb, and the resulting medical complications are having a significant impact on both the state budget and the quality of life of Louisiana citizens; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2007 Trust for America's Health report, Louisiana has the fourth highest rate of adult obesity and the ninth highest rate of overweight youths ages ten to seventeen; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana spends nearly one billion four hundred million dollars annually on obesity-attributed health care costs; and

WHEREAS, obesity and being overweight are associated with increased risks for costly chronic diseases, such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease, osteoarthritis, and some cancers; and

WHEREAS, obesity due to poor diet and lack of exercise is responsible for more than three hundred thousand deaths per year; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana's leaders must fight the obesity epidemic by promoting education, increasing awareness, and setting a positive example through eating healthfully and exercising regularly.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize Tuesday, May 6, 2008, as Legislative Wellness Day at the Louisiana House of Representatives and does hereby commend the

efforts of the American Heart Association, the Louisiana Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, the Louisiana Council on Obesity Prevention and Management, the Louisiana Dietetic Association, and the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives does hereby express support for public and private initiatives to help Louisiana citizens attain wellness through healthful eating and physical activity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the American Heart Association, the Louisiana Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, the Louisiana Council on Obesity Prevention and Management, the Louisiana Dietetic Association, and the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES